

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

March 2, 2007

Message From County Executive Walker

This week saw a lot of good news for Milwaukee County residents suffering from mental illness.

On Monday, I signed a resolution that paved the way for two housing projects that will provide decent, affordable housing for people suffering from mental illness.

On Wednesday, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development gave the Milwaukee Continuum of Care over \$10 million in funding to address housing for the homeless, much of which will go to create housing for people suffering with mental illness.

On Thursday, the County Board approved a number of resolutions that will address some of the problems we are experiencing in caring for our residents with mental illness.

Rest assured, Milwaukee County is taking very seriously the challenges we are facing in caring for our mentally ill residents and we, with our partners at the city and within the community, are creating real change, and we are not done yet.

Scott



HUD Gives \$10 Million In Aid To Help Homeless In Milwaukee County



County Executive Walker and John Chianelli (left), Co-Chairman of the Milwaukee Continuum of Care, accept a check from Del Reynolds (right), Director of the Milwaukee HUD Office.

On Wednesday, County Executive Scott Walker attended a press conference with Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett at the Hillside Family Resource Center sponsored by the U.S. Government Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The event celebrated HUD's awarding of over \$10 million in funding to support a number of agencies that are addressing the needs of Milwaukee County's homeless population.

Milwaukee County's Department of Health and Human Services received \$573,627 and the county's Behavioral Health Division received \$2,383,020.

Milwaukee County's Director of Health Programs, John Chianelli, who also serves as Co-Chair of Milwaukee County's Continuum of Care, was instrumental in securing these awards.

Walker Signs Housing Resolutions



County Executive Walker, with (from left) Supervisors Michael Mayo, Elizabeth Coggs-Jones and Toni Clark, signs a resolution at the United Christian Church

On Monday, County Executive Scott Walker signed two resolutions authorizing the funding of two projects that will create housing for people suffering from mental illness.

The first project is being sponsored by the United Christian Church and Cardinal Capital Management. This project will consist of a 24-unit supportive housing building at 25th and Center Streets on land currently owned by the United Christian Church.

The second project would help fund 24 units of housing for formerly homeless and low-income individuals at 1218 West Highland, of which 10 units would be set aside for Behavioral Health Division clients who are currently living in substandard housing. This project is being sponsored by the Guest House and Heartland Housing.

"This is just the first of many such projects that will be developed through our partnership with the City of Milwaukee to address the problem of providing safe housing for Milwaukee County's citizens suffering from mental illness," said Walker.

National Veterans Wheelchair Games Get Boost From Wal-Mart



County Executive Walker with representatives from Wal-Mart, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Veterans Wheelchair Games

At a press conference Tuesday, County Executive Scott Walker, along with representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, accepted a check for \$50,000 to help support the 27th National Veterans Wheelchair Games to be held June 19-23 in Milwaukee County.

This event is expected to draw over 500 wheelchair athletes from across the United States and as far away as Great Britain who will compete in events such as track and field, swimming, basketball, weightlifting, softball, archery, and many others.

Many Milwaukee County facilities will be utilized for the events including parks and the Milwaukee County Zoo. Milwaukee County Transit buses will be extensively used to transport the athletes and spectators to the various venues. The event is expected to attract more than 4,500 visitors to the county and generate approximately \$2.8 for area businesses.